

Office Action of September 3, 2002, and submit that this paper is responsive to all points raised therein.

Claims 9-13 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Weber (U.S. Patent No. 3,670,413).

Claims 9 and 12 recite a blade and blade body, respectively, and a receiver. The receiver has flexible members with ends and portions, respectively, these ends or portions are configured such that pressure thereon moves the flexible members outward. As a result of this structure, the blade can be placed onto and removed from the stub absent any tools, or "tools free", making changing of the blades a simple and quick operation.

Weber teaches a blade 12 and spring clips 13 formed from a single piece of sheet metal. These spring clips 13 move outward then inward when mounted to the cylindrical portion 20 of the insulating hub, to fit over the hub, with the inwardly curved portions of the clips 13 engaging the annular groove 19.

Weber is different from the claimed invention, as these spring members 13 lack any additional structure, that when pressured will move them outward. For this reason, Weber fails to show the claimed invention and therefore, claims 9 and 12 are not anticipated by Weber under 35 USC 102(b).

Additionally, the curved shape of the spring clips 13 allows the blade 12 of the Weber device to be easily removed from the hub. Since these clips 13 alone allow for the removal of the blade, there is no motivation for the skilled artisan to add additional structures, similar or analogous to the recited ends and portions of the flexible members, of the claimed invention. Accordingly, claims 9 and 12 are also non-obvious in view Weber.

Since claims 9 and 12 are neither anticipated by Weber under 35 USC 102(b), nor obvious in view of Weber, claims 10 and 11, and 13, respectively dependent thereon, are also allowable over this cited art for the same reasons. These claims further distinguish the invention from this cited art.

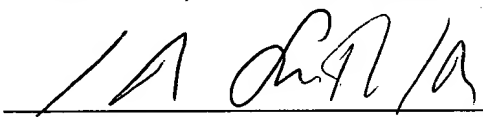
Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this paper, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Entry of this paper and allowance of all pending claims, 9-13, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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